



**Town of East Hartford
Commission on Culture and Fine Arts
740 Main St.
East Hartford, CT 06108-3114**

East Hartford Raymond Library
840 Main Street
Meeting Minutes
February 9th, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Roz White called meeting to order at 7:07 PM

I. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Amanda Ackley, Glynis McKenzie, Sarah Morgan, Lakisher K. Hurst, Lisa Gold, Susan Tukey, Rosamond White, Prescille Yamamoto

ABSENT: Tamara Bryan-Churchro, Joan Coates, Emilio Estrella, Thomas Lumpkin(excused) Michael MacDonald

II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: January 12th, 2023

Motion by Glynis McKenzie to approve minutes with the following

Corrections - under **Old Business:**

To correct the "he" to "the" in the sentence: The Chair requests commissioners attend the events we sponsor, a way we can engage with residents

Motion seconded by Lakisher Hurst.

Motion approved.

III. CHAIR'S REPORT:

Chair just remarked that commission is doing very well and we should all be proud of the good work. Budget, attendance and schedule have been submitted for 2023-24.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

• **Children Library Programs and Library Director's Report:**

1. We have five new part-time staff
2. Wickham Memorial Library does not yet have a certificate of occupancy
3. Congressman Larson has been actively engaged in moving the post office project forward
4. Upcoming CCFA co-sponsored programs:
 1. Jocelyn Pleasant and Friends @ 7 PM (come at 6 PM for an art workshop with the Threads of Assumption artists)
 2. Japan Week will kick off on Friday, April 21 @ Wickham
5. Recent successes:

1. Take Your Child to the Library Day
2. Math night/family story time
3. Higher family engagement in children's room
4. VITA tax prep

EHSYF: Amanda has reported that the name of the show was revealed via Facebook, the summer production is NEWSIES.

Discussion held on tickets purchased by CCFA from the last meeting.

Soliciting donations for silent auction for the cabaret fundraising in April. Deadline end of March.

FILM SERIES: 1/21/23 Compartment No. 6 at CCC at 7pm, 25 in attendance. 2/18 Film is Lunana: A Yak in the classroom. Admission is free. Films will be on the third Saturdays: 3/18/23; and 4/15/23.

MINI GRANTS: Chair reported she personally delivered the checks to BOE for the 3 approved mini grants. Prescille is still working on the additional two applicants for clarity on what exactly is the project and what is their need.

MUSIC: Chair reports that we still have \$850 in budget, talking with two local artists for something maybe in July.

Black History Musical Event on February 16th at the library

ARTS: *The historical society plans on having their Art show, with our help on September 23 and not in July. Will be air marked for 2023-24 budget.*

POETRY/DANCE: Project is still being developed.

IMMIGRATION EVENTS: *Japan week be in April with an opening reception 4/21/23 5:30-8 at Wickham Library. Event will be held at four locations- Raymond Library, Wickham Library, the Senior Center and the University of St. Joseph University (also a sponsor).*

VI: OLD BUSINESS:

The Chair requests commissioners attend the events we sponsor, a way we can engage with residents.

Amanda asked if we are looking for other shows/events. Chair reiterates she is expecting all board members to work on a project each year.

VII: NEW BUSINESS:

Prescille Yamamoto advised Paul Bisaccia would like to grant the town a free Spring concert. The commission will gift him a monetary gift.

Amanda presented free beginner jazz/hip hop dance classes for the town from 4/15 -5/20 held at the First Congregational Church of EH. Due to the renovation of Town Hall town funded

programs will be held at other sites. Target age: 7-11 years old. Instructor: DLL Studios
www.dlldance.com Chinue Clifford

Motion made by Prescille for the dance program to begin on 4/15. Seconded by Lisa Gold. All in favor, motion approved

Sounds of Summer- East Hartford Night – Gave \$1200 for 2022, would keep this as a standard. Suggestion to not to hold the concert on the 2nd or last Thursday of July or do the first week of August. Same as last month

Sarah Morgan and Vice President Lisa Gold presented to the board the concept of developing and conducting a Pilot of board and commissions orientation. The chair remarked that the need to retain and recruit is critical but more important is board members understanding of their role and responsibilities as representatives of the town. To answer the question to candidates who are willing to be on boards with a comprehensive understanding what it may entail and the functions of a board. Their commitment to the town and the board on attendance, with collaboration with the YMCA 50/50 program, CCFA has approved the initiative. Glynis has volunteered to be part of developing the curriculum.

VIII: APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Ken Lawhorn piano tuning in December -	\$150
Japanese Week program	\$2500
African Diasporic Percussion	\$1000
Clerk fees	\$100
DLL Studio	\$660

Motion by Glynis McKenzie seconded by Prescille Yamamoto. All in favor, motion approved.

X: ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Glynis McKenzie seconded by Sue Tukey. All in favor, motion approved.

Adjourned at 8:00 PM

Next meeting will be March 9, 2023, at the EH Library in Meeting Room 1

****** Italics statements were taken from the prior month minutes which the Chair would like to reiterate.**